

# BARRON COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

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### CHAPTER 3000

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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### **3000 OBJECTIVE AND POLICY**

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

To provide a quantifiable means of evaluating progress on both short and long term goals on the Barron County Forest.

**POLICY:** Annual accomplishments will be recorded as a historical record, to assist in future planning, and to provide documentation for both the County, and the County Forest system. This information is invaluable in addressing public, County Board, and other legislative inquiries on the operation of the Forest as well as assessing progress on goals.

### **3100 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORTS**

A copy of an annual accomplishment report shall be prepared and provided to members of the County Board and to official copyholders of this Plan for inclusion into this chapter.

This report shall include, at a minimum, the following:

1. Timber sale accomplishments including gross and net sale receipts and harvest goals achieved.
2. Timber Stand Improvements accomplishments.
3. Recreation development and maintenance accomplishments including recreation revenues and expenses.
4. Wildlife management accomplishments including revenues and expenses.
5. Fisheries management accomplishments including revenues and expenses.
6. Other accomplishments identified as “needs” in Chapter 1000.

#### **3100.1**

#### **2009 ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

##### **I. MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES – 2009**

- A. The Barron County Forest is comprised of 14 compartments with a total of 15,864.66 acres. The 1999 recon printout shows the following acres:

##### Forest Cover:

1. Aspen	4,385 acres
2. White Birch	15 acres
3. Fir/Spruce	23 acres
4. Northern Hardwoods	3,228 acres
5. Oak	3,213 acres
6. Red Pine	353 acres
7. White Pine	238 acres
8. Black Spruce	30 acres
9. Swamp Conifers	123 acres
10. Swamp Hardwoods	297 acres
11. Tamarack	112 acres

##### Non-forest cover:

1. Upland grass	202 acres
2. True grasses	54 acres
3. Parking acres	7 acres
4. Marsh	1,456 acres
5. Water	42 acres
6. Lowland brush	973 acres

2009 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

7. Minor lakes	488 acres
8. Minor streams	23 acres
9. Right-of-way	82 acres
10. Upland brush	68 acres
11. Rock outcrops	54 acres

- B. The Forest access road system consists of 70 miles of trails and access roads classified under primary and secondary access roads. Details of classification system can be found in Chapter 700 and a map in Chapter 900 of the 2006-2020 Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

## II. TIMBER SALE ADMINISTRATION

Timber Sale Status – there are 19 timber sales on the county books at this time:

- A. Seven (7) sales were closed-out in 2008.
- B. Eleven (11) timber sales are expected to be closed out in 2009.
- C. Timber sale #308 will expire on June 30, 2009 and will be re-let for bids fall, 2009.
- D. Two (2) timber sales from 2006 have had no activity to date. Sale #312 expires on June 30, 2009, sale #325 expires on June 30, 2010. Five (5) timber sales established in 2008 have had no activity.

A majority of the backlog in sale administration is caused by inaccessible software. A timber sale ledger was developed and is being used to track current sale activity. A new software program may be purchased or developed in 2009 and the backlog will be resolved. The Timber Sale Contract will be reviewed and modified to address issues and recommendation outlined in the Barron County Forestry Audit.

## III. TIMBER SALE PLANNING AND ESTABLISHMENT

- A. Acres and type/species – For 2009 approximately 408 acres of timber sale establishment will be completed. The acreage being marked is mostly oak thinning. Sales that have variable quality and/or are difficult to estimate volumes are sold mill scale – log scale. Sales with good and consistent quality are sold lump sum (saw logs).
- B. 2008 – Six (6) timber sales were offered in September, 2008 – five (5) of those sales were sold. Volumes of the sales that were sold totaled 280.19 MBF (thousand board feet) of sawtimber and 2.972 cords of pulpwood and boltwood.

Plans are to keep the appraisals at last year's level but will be reviewed based on market and economic conditions.

## 2009 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

## IV. FOREST RECONNAISSANCE

Forest reconnaissance is completed following completion of timber sale or when stand is physically entered and then rescheduled. The entire forest has been re-reconned in the past 20 years and recon has been kept up to date in order to assure the most useful information possible from the reconnaissance printout.

As a result of our digitizing the County Forest stand maps and the computer's ability to compile large number of small (1/2 to 2 acre) wetland complexes into stands. When the GIS project is in place a one time correction of stand acreage and forest cover type summaries will be done in 2009 - 2010.

Barron County will fully implement the new Wisconsin Forest Inventory and Reporting System. One advantage of implementing this new system is that it will allow us to update the cultural needs segment of the reconnaissance information. Many of the needs that were in the old system are no longer being done or needed.

Compatibility issues remain between the County's GIS project and WisFIRS. County staff will continue to review and attempt to resolve the compatibility issue.

#### V. TIMBERSTAND IMPROVEMENT

No TSI outside of timber sale contracts is scheduled in hardwood stands. Several recently regenerated oak stands may need TSI in the near future. Labor to conduct these TSI projects will be negotiated at that time.

#### VI. REFORESTATION

2009 will have no reforestation planting projects. The County implemented natural reseeding actions in 2008.

A replanting project in non-County Forest will take place in 2010 at the Barron County Museum property.

#### VII. FOREST PROTECTION

- A. A majority of the Barron County Forest is in the DNR intensive fire protection zones. The Silver Creek and Hay River Compartments are in non-protective zones. Agreements are in place with the appropriate fire departments.

Fire is not normally a problem except during extreme conditions. Barron County has very little conifer type to worry about.

- B. There have been no major outbreaks of insects or diseases on the County Forest in the recent past and none are anticipated. Specialists are called in whenever something of interest or an unusual nature is detected. Larch beetle is causing some mortality. EAB (emerald ash borer) and Gypsy Moth are anticipated future problems.

### 2009 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

#### VIII. MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Barron County has no buildings and/or campgrounds on the County Forest. As budgeting allows we are replacing old cable gates with either pipe or farm type gates. Annually, money is budgeted for maintenance and development of forest access roads. Gates are constructed and maintained

with time and monies budgeted in the County Forest budget. Gates are maintained and replaced on a rotating basis throughout the forest and as they are damaged. In 2009 the County Forester will begin planning for the development of a uniform signing and gate plan.

IX. FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Wildlife Habitat funds (10 cents/acre) are used for a variety of habitat projects on the Barron County Forest. Oak regeneration is Barron County's number one priority and takes precedence over all other habitat projects.

Habitat funds will be used for trail mowing and a handicapped fishing project on Silver Creek.

X. GIS – BARRON COUNTY FOREST

Efforts to resolve the GIS – WisFIRS compatibility issue will continue and GIS data will be updated in 2009. Plans are being discussed to build a forest road information layer.

XI. LAND PURCHASES, SALES, EXCHANGES WITHIN COUNTY FOREST

One – eighty (80) acre land acquisition was made in 2008 of property that surrounded County Forest. The Barron County Property Committee continues to review land purchase options and potential sources for funding.

XII. INTERACTION WITH OTHER GROUPS

- A. Snowmobile Clubs – Whenever possible, segments of the Barron County snowmobile trail system are placed within the Barron County Forest. To the greatest extent possible, trails are placed on existing forest access roads. Such placement often eliminates need for brushing on such segments. Disruption of snowmobile trails for logging is usually minimal. The newly created Conservation Deputy works closely with all snowmobile and ATV clubs in the County.
- B. Skiing – The Barron County Forest has a ½ mile lighted cross-country ski trail in the Waterman Lake block. Site includes a parking lot and warming house. All are maintained by the Cumberland Area Ski Touring Association (CASTA). The County provides annual funding to assist in the maintenance of this resource.
- C. In July of 2005 Forest and Recreation Committee supported inclusion of parts of the County Forest for Nomination in the IBA (Interesting Bird Areas) program sponsored by the Audubon Society. The Bear Lake Sedge Meadow was nominated and accepted in 2007, a formal announcement is anticipated in 2009.
- D. Ice Age Trail – Segments of Ice Age Trail from Rusk County line through Cedar Lake compartment was offered for National Certification and has been so certified.

The Conservation Deputy position in the Barron County Sheriff Department will take responsibility of co-coordinating activities on the County trail system.

2009 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

XIII. RECREATION

- A. Parks and Campgrounds – No parks or campgrounds are located on the Barron County Forest.

- B. Boat Landings – Boat landings on the Forest are mostly undeveloped with carry-in access only. The Little Sand Lake acquisition added two developed lake accesses to the forest.
- C. All Terrain Vehicles – Most of the Barron County Forest is closed to ATV use. The 15-year Forest Plan allows use of ATV's in County Forest after case-by-case review by the Property Committee. Such use is limited to ungated roads that are not signed to restrict ATV use. No off-road ATV use is permitted on the forest. Discussion is underway to develop a trail segment in Compartment 5 near Silver Creek.
- D. Snowmobile Trails – Approximately 9 miles of funded snowmobile trails are located in the forest.
- E. Snowshoeing – A 2 ½ mile snowshoe trail was completed in 2001 with an additional 2 mile loop in 2002. Total of 4 ½ miles of three connecting loops have been signed, brushed, and ready for snow since early in 2002.
- F. Rifle Range – A rifle range is located in the Hay River block of the County Forest. It consists of a shelter, a .22 range; two big bore ranges and a pistol range.
- G. The National Ice Age Trail – traverses several compartments of the forest. Portions of the trail are found in the following compartments: Cedar Lake, Bear Lake and Waterman Lake.

Parts of the above mentioned snowshoe trail uses a portion of the Ice Age Trail in the Waterman Lake block. The Ice Age Trail is always protected by timber sale contract provisions, when a timber sale comes in contact with the trail.

#### XIV. GRANTS AND FUNDING

- A. County Conservation Funds.
  - 1. 2008 - 2009 - Funds committed, along with carry-over funds, to the development of a handicapped trout fishing trail and deck in the Silver Creek unit and Bear Lake Flowage dike repair.
  - 2. 2008-2009 fund phase II of (I) including paving of the access trail.
- B. Snowmobile and ATV trail funds are used to maintain and develop such trails, where appropriate. The vast majority of these trails are located on private lands.
- C. At this time 1.75 miles of ATV trails are located within the County Forest.

#### XV. OTHER TOPICS

- A. Wisconsin County Forest Association Meetings – A representative from the Property Committee and Forest Administrator have been active participants in WCFA activities and committees. Barron County will continue such participation as a means of keeping up with new ideas from other Counties, to find solutions to Barron County problems and to have a voice in legislation at the state and national level.

#### 2009 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

- B. Computers, Programs, GIS, etc – See Section X for update.
- C. Fifteen Year Plan Activities

Amendments to the 15-Year Plan was completed and adopted by the Barron County Board in 2008.

- D. Forest Certification – Barron County Forest was certified as a sustainable forest in both FSC and SFI programs in 2005. In 2007 Barron County hosted an audit by FSC

as part of WCFA certification audit. 2009 will see Forest Director active in finding needed modifications to audit funding.

- E. DNR Audit – The 2008 DNR audit identified numerous areas of concerns and necessary adjustments to comply with requirements. The Barron County Administrator and Finance Director are working closely with the new County Forester to resolve compliance issues.

3100.2

## 2010 ANNUAL WORK PLAN

### I. MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES – 2010

- A. The Barron County Forest is comprised of 14 compartments with a total of 15,864.66 acres. The 1999 recon printout shows the following acres:

#### Forest Cover:

1. Aspen	4,385 acres
2. White Birch	15 acres
3. Fir/Spruce	23 acres
4. Northern Hardwoods	3,228 acres
5. Oak	3,213 acres
6. Red Pine	353 acres
7. White Pine	238 acres
8. Black Spruce	30 acres
9. Swamp Conifers	123 acres
10. Swamp Hardwoods	297 acres
11. Tamarack	112 acres

#### Non-forest cover:

1. Upland grass	202 acres
2. True grasses	54 acres
3. Parking acres	7 acres
4. Marsh	1,456 acres
5. Water	42 acres
6. Lowland brush	973 acres
7. Minor lakes	488 acres
8. Minor streams	23 acres
9. Right-of-way	82 acres
10. Upland brush	68 acres
11. Rock outcrops	54 acres

- B. The Forest access road system consists of 70 miles of trails and access roads classified under primary and secondary access roads. Details of classification system can be found in Chapter 700 and a map in Chapter 900 of the 2006-2020 Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

## 2010 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

### II. TIMBER SALE ADMINISTRATION

Timber Sale Status – there are 10 timber sales on the county books at this time:

- A. Eleven (11) sales were closed-out in 2009.  
B. Four (4) timber sales are expected to be closed out in 2010. Two of the four involve Non-CFL Property.

### III. TIMBER SALE PLANNING AND ESTABLISHMENT

- A. Acres and type/species – For 2010 approximately 450 acres of timber sale establishment will be completed. The acreage being marked is mostly oak thinning. Sales that have variable quality and/or are difficult to estimate volumes are sold mill

scale – log scale. Sales with good and consistent quality are sold lump sum (saw logs).

- B. 2009 – Six (6) timber sales were offered in October of 2009 – all six of those sales were sold. Volumes of the sales that were sold totaled 296.48 MBF (thousand board feet) of sawtimber and 3819 cords of pulpwood and boltwood.

#### IV. FOREST RECONNAISSANCE

Forest reconnaissance is completed following completion of timber sale or when stand is physically entered and then rescheduled. The entire forest has been re-reconned in the past 20 years and recon has been kept up to date in order to assure the most useful information possible from the reconnaissance printout.

As a result of our digitizing the County Forest stand maps and the computer's ability to compile large number of small (1/2 to 2 acre) wetland complexes into stands. When the GIS project is in place a one time correction of stand acreage and forest cover type summaries will be done in 2009 - 2010.

Barron County will fully implement the new Wisconsin Forest Inventory and Reporting System. One advantage of implementing this new system is that it will allow us to update the cultural needs segment of the reconnaissance information. Many of the needs that were in the old system are no longer being done or needed.

#### V. TIMBERSTAND IMPROVEMENT

Sixty (60) acres of TSI (Timber Stand Improvement) acreage is currently scheduled to be completed in 2009-2010. The acreage is located in Compartment 10. Monies to complete this project are being supplied by a County Forest Sustainable Grant.

#### VI. REFORESTATION

2010 will have one reforestation planting projects involving approximately 15 acres on Non-CFL at the Barron County Museum property.

#### VII. FOREST PROTECTION

- A. A majority of the Barron County Forest is in the DNR intensive fire protection zones. The Silver Creek and Hay River Compartments are in non-protective zones. Agreements are in place with the appropriate fire departments.

Fire is not normally a problem except during extreme conditions. Barron County has very little conifer type to worry about.

2010 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

- B. There have been no major outbreaks of insects or diseases on the County Forest in the recent past and none are anticipated. Specialists are called in whenever something of interest or an unusual nature is detected. Larch beetle is causing some mortality. EAB (emerald ash borer) and Gypsy Moth are anticipated future problems.

#### VIII. MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Barron County has no buildings and/or campgrounds on the County Forest. As budgeting allows we are replacing old cable gates with either pipe or farm type gates. Annually, money is budgeted for maintenance and development of forest access roads. Gates are constructed and maintained with time and monies budgeted in the County Forest budget. Gates are maintained and replaced on a rotating basis throughout the forest and as they are damaged.



IX. FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Wildlife Habitat funds (.05 cents/acre) are used for a variety of habitat projects on the Barron County Forest. Oak regeneration is Barron County's number one priority and takes precedence over all other habitat projects.

Habitat funds will be used for trail mowing and a handicapped fishing project on Silver Creek.

Repairs were made to the Little Bear flowage (re-grading, the addition soil fabric and rip-rap.

X. GIS – BARRON COUNTY FOREST

The WisFIRS compatibility issue has been resolved and the Barron County Forest data will be updated when the DNR institutes it's new RAVEN Software in 2010. The digitization of county forest roads will begin in the fall of 2009.

XI. LAND PURCHASES, SALES, EXCHANGES WITHIN COUNTY FOREST

No Land was purchased within the County Forest Boundary.

XII. INTERACTION WITH OTHER GROUPS

- A. Snowmobile Clubs – Whenever possible, segments of the Barron County snowmobile trail system are placed within the Barron County Forest. To the greatest extent possible, trails are placed on existing forest access roads. Such placement often eliminates need for brushing on such segments. Disruption of snowmobile trails for logging is usually minimal. The newly created Conservation Deputy works closely with all snowmobile and ATV clubs in the County.
- B. Skiing – The Barron County Forest has a ½ mile lighted cross-country ski trail in the Waterman Lake block. Site includes a parking lot and warming house. Members of the Ice Age Trail are developing plans for placement of an information Kiosk and fencing near the parking area All are maintained by the Cumberland Area Ski Touring Association (CASTA).The County provides annual funding to assist in the maintenance of this resource.

2010 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

The Conservation Deputy position in the Barron County Sheriff Department will take responsibility of co-coordinating activities on the County trail system.

XIII. RECREATION

- A. Parks and Campgrounds – No parks or campgrounds are located on the Barron County Forest.
- B. Boat Landings – Boat landings on the Forest are mostly undeveloped with carry-in access only. The Little Sand Lake acquisition added two developed lake accesses to the forest.
- C. All Terrain Vehicles – Most of the Barron County Forest is closed to ATV use. The 15-year Forest Plan allows use of ATV's in County Forest after case-by-case review

by the Property Committee. Such use is limited to ungated roads that are not signed to restrict ATV use. No off-road ATV use is permitted on the forest.

- D. Snowmobile Trails – Approximately 9 miles of funded snowmobile trails are located in the forest.
- E. Snowshoeing – A 2 ½ mile snowshoe trail was completed in 2001 with an additional 2 mile loop in 2002. Total of 4 ½ miles of three connecting loops have been signed, brushed, and ready for snow since early in 2002.
- F. Rifle Range – A rifle range is located in the Hay River block of the County Forest. It consists of a shelter, a .22 range; two big bore ranges and a pistol range.
- G. The National Ice Age Trail – traverses several compartments of the forest. Portions of the trail are found in the following compartments: Cedar Lake, Bear Lake and Waterman Lake.

Parts of the above mentioned snowshoe trail uses a portion of the Ice Age Trail in the Waterman Lake block. The Ice Age Trail is always protected by timber sale contract provisions, when a timber sale comes in contact with the trail.

#### XIV. GRANTS AND FUNDING

- i. County Conservation Funds.
  - 1. 2010 – Funds will be applied for the continuation of the next phase in the development of a handicapped trout fishing trail and deck in the Silver Creek unit.
- ii. County Forest Sustainable Grant.
  - 1. A \$ 6,000.00 Grant was received in 2009 to conduct a TSI (Timber Stand Improvement) project in Management Unit 10.
- iii. Snowmobile and ATV trail funds are used to maintain and develop such trails, where appropriate. The vast majority of these trails are located on private lands.
- iv. At this time 1.75 miles of ATV trails are located within the County Forest.

#### XV. OTHER TOPICS

- A. Wisconsin County Forest Association Meetings – A representative from the Property Committee and Forest Administrator have been active participants in WCFA activities and committees. Barron County will continue such participation as a means of keeping up with new ideas from other Counties, to find solutions to Barron County problems and to have a voice in legislation at the state and national level.
- B. Computers, Programs, GIS, etc – See Section X for update.
- C. Fifteen Year Plan Activities

Amendments to the 15-Year Plan was completed and adopted by the Barron County Board in 2009.
- D. Forest Certification – Barron County Forest remains certified as a sustainable forest in both FSC and SFI programs.
- E. DNR Audit – The 2008 DNR audit identified numerous areas of concerns and necessary adjustments to comply with requirements. The Barron County Administrator, Finance Director and County Forester resolved those issues identified in the audit in 2009. Funding for the County Forest Administrators Grant and eligibility for the County Forest Sustainable Grant Program remain in place.

## I. MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES – 2011

- A. The Barron County Forest is comprised of 14 compartments with a total of 16,390 acres. The 2010 WisFIRS printout shows the following acres:

Forest Cover:

1. Aspen	4,674 acres
2. Bottomland Hardwoods	38 acres
3. White Birch	19 acres
4. Fir/Spruce	2 acres
5. Northern Hardwoods	2,596 acres
6.. Oak	4,766 acres (Incl. 80 ac. Rajek/Nelson aquis.)
7.. Red Pine	344 acres
8.. White Pine	297 acres
9. Black Spruce	24 acres
10. Swamp Conifers	114 acres
11. Swamp Hardwoods	291 acres
12.White Spruce	19 acres
13. Tamarack	96 acres

Non-forest cover:

1. Upland grass	190 acres
2. True grasses	14 acres
3. Parking Area	2 acres
4. Marsh	1,202 acres
5. Water	47 acres
6. Lowland brush	769 acres
7. Minor lakes	612 acres
8. Minor streams	23 acres
9. Right-of-way	109 acres
10. Upland brush	70 acres
11. Rock outcrops	57 acres
12.Farmland	62 acres
13.Developed Use	2 acres
14.Lowland Grass	31 acres

- B. The Forest access road system consists of 70 miles of trails and access roads classified under primary and secondary access roads. Details of classification system can be found in Chapter 700 and a map in Chapter 900 of the 2006-2020 Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

## II. TIMBER SALE ADMINISTRATION

Timber Sale Status – there are 10 timber sales on the county books at this time:

- A. Ten (10) sales were closed-out in 2010.  
 B. Four (4) timber sales are expected to be closed out in 2011.

## 2011 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

### III. TIMBER SALE PLANNING AND ESTABLISHMENT

- A. Acres and type/species – For 2011 approximately 450 acres of timber sale establishment will be completed. The acreage being marked is mostly (400 ac.) oak and northern hardwood thinning. 50 acres will be oak shelterwood harvests. Sales that have variable quality and/or are difficult to estimate volumes are sold mill scale – log scale. Sales with good and consistent quality are sold lump sum (saw logs).
- B. 2011 – Two (2) timber sales were offered in October of 2010 & One (1) timber sale was offered in December of 2010 – all three of those sales were sold. Volumes of the sales that were sold totaled 556.8 MBF (thousand board feet) of sawtimber and 2720 cords of pulpwood and boltwood.

### IV. FOREST RECONNAISSANCE

Forest reconnaissance is completed following completion of timber sale or when stand is physically entered and then rescheduled. The entire forest has been re-reconned in the past 20 years and recon has been kept up to date in order to assure the most useful information possible from the reconnaissance printout.

As a result of our digitizing the County Forest stand maps and the computer's ability to compile large number of small (1/2 to 2 acre) wetland complexes into stands. When the GIS project is in place a one time correction of stand acreage and forest cover type summaries will be done in 2009 - 2010.

Barron County will fully implement the new Wisconsin Forest Inventory and Reporting System. One advantage of implementing this new system is that it will allow us to update the cultural needs segment of the reconnaissance information. Many of the needs that were in the old system are no longer being done or needed.

### V. TIMBERSTAND IMPROVEMENT

Sixty (60) acres of TSI (Timber Stand Improvement) acreage is currently scheduled to be completed in 2011. The acreage is located in Compartment 10. Monies to complete this project are being supplied by a County Forest Sustainable Grant.

### VI. REFORESTATION

2011 will have one reforestation planting project involving approximately 16 acres on Non-CFL at the Cumberland Gravel Pit.

### VII. FOREST PROTECTION

- A. A majority of the Barron County Forest is in the DNR intensive fire protection zones. The Silver Creek and Hay River Compartments are in non-protective zones. Agreements are in place with the appropriate fire departments.

Fire is not normally a problem except during extreme conditions. Barron County has very little conifer type to worry about.

## 2011 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

- B. There have been no major outbreaks of insects or diseases on the County Forest in the recent past and none are anticipated. Specialists are called in whenever something of interest or an unusual nature is detected. Larch beetle is causing some mortality. EAB (emerald ash borer) and Gypsy Moth are anticipated future problems.

### VIII. MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Barron County has no buildings and/or campgrounds on the County Forest. As budgeting allows we are replacing old cable gates with either pipe or farm type gates. Annually, money is budgeted for maintenance and development of forest access roads. Gates and signs are constructed and maintained with time and monies budgeted in the County Maintenance budget.

### IX. FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Wildlife Habitat funds (.05 cents/acre) are used for a variety of habitat projects on the Barron County Forest. Oak regeneration is Barron County's number one priority and takes precedence over all other habitat projects.

Habitat funds will be used for trail mowing and a handicapped fishing project on Silver Creek.

### X. GIS – BARRON COUNTY FOREST

The WisFIRS compatibility issue has been resolved and the Barron County Forest data will be updated when the DNR institutes its new RAVEN Software in 2010. The digitization of county forest roads will begin in the fall of 2009.

### XI. LAND PURCHASES, SALES, EXCHANGES WITHIN COUNTY FOREST

80 acres of forested acreage was purchased in the Town of Doyle and entered into the County Forest. A Knowles – Nelson Stewardship Grant provided 50 % of the monies, the remaining 50 % were obtained through a WDNR Project loan.

### XII. INTERACTION WITH OTHER GROUPS

- A. Snowmobile Clubs – Whenever possible, segments of the Barron County snowmobile trail system are placed within the Barron County Forest. To the greatest extent possible, trails are placed on existing forest access roads. Such placement often eliminates need for brushing on such segments. Disruption of snowmobile trails for logging is usually minimal. The newly created Conservation Deputy works closely with all snowmobile and ATV clubs in the County.
- B. Skiing – The Barron County Forest has a ½ mile lighted cross-country ski trail in the Waterman Lake block. Site includes a parking lot and warming house. Members of the Ice Age Trail are developing plans for placement of an information Kiosk and fencing near the parking area. All are maintained by the Cumberland Area Ski Touring Association (CASTA). The County provides annual funding to assist in the maintenance of this resource.

The Conservation Deputy position in the Barron County Sheriff Department will take responsibility of co-coordinating activities on the County trail system.

## 2011 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

### XIII. RECREATION

- A. Parks and Campgrounds – No parks or campgrounds are located on the Barron County Forest.
- B. Boat Landings – Boat landings on the Forest are mostly undeveloped with carry-in access only. The Little Sand Lake acquisition added two developed lake accesses to the forest.
- C. All Terrain Vehicles – Most of the Barron County Forest is closed to ATV use. The 15-year Forest Plan allows use of ATV's in County Forest after case-by-case review by the Property Committee. Such use is limited to ungated roads that are not signed to restrict ATV use. No off-road ATV use is permitted on the forest.
- D. Snowmobile Trails – Approximately 9 miles of funded snowmobile trails are located in the forest.
- E. Snowshoeing – A 2 ½ mile snowshoe trail was completed in 2001 with an additional 2 mile loop in 2002. Total of 4 ½ miles of three connecting loops have been signed, brushed, and ready for snow since early in 2002.
- F. Rifle Range – A rifle range is located in the Hay River block of the County Forest. It consists of a shelter, a .22 range; two big bore ranges and a pistol range.
- G. The National Ice Age Trail – traverses several compartments of the forest. Portions of the trail are found in the following compartments: Cedar Lake, Bear Lake and Waterman Lake.

Parts of the above mentioned snowshoe trail uses a portion of the Ice Age Trail in the Waterman Lake block. The Ice Age Trail is always protected by timber sale contract provisions, when a timber sale comes in contact with the trail.

- H. Equestrian Trails – Two trails along with a horse trailer camping area were established in the Narrow Gauge Compartment in 2010. Establishment and maintenance was supplied by and is the responsibility of the Barron County Horse Trail Association

### XIV. GRANTS AND FUNDING

- i. County Conservation Funds.
  - 1. 2010 – Funds will be applied for the continuation of the next phase in the development of a handicapped trout fishing trail and deck in the Silver Creek unit.
- ii. County Forest Sustainable Grant.
  - 1. A \$ 6,000.00 Grant was received in 2009 to conduct a TSI (Timber Stand Improvement) project in Management Unit 10.
- iii. Snowmobile and ATV trail funds are used to maintain and develop such trails, where appropriate. The vast majority of these trails are located on private lands.
- iv. At this time 1.75 miles of ATV trails are located within the County Forest.

## 2011 ANNUAL WORK PLAN (cont.)

### XV. OTHER TOPICS

- A. Wisconsin County Forest Association Meetings – A representative from the Property Committee and Forest Administrator have been active participants in WCFA activities and committees. Barron County will continue such participation as a means of keeping up with new ideas from other Counties, to find solutions to Barron County problems and to have a voice in legislation at the state and national level.
- B. Computers, Programs, GIS, etc – See Section X for update.
- C. Fifteen Year Plan Activities  
  
Amendments to the 15-Year Plan (regarding the establishment of Horse Trails) were completed and adopted by the Barron County Board in 2010.
- D. Forest Certification – Barron County Forest remains certified as a sustainable forest in both FSC and SFI programs.
- E. DNR Audit – Barron County is scheduled for an audit by the WDNR in the fall of 2011.

3100.4

## 2012 ANNUAL WORK PLAN

### I. MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES – 2012

- A. The Barron County Forest is comprised of 14 compartments with a total of 16,390 acres. The 2011 WisFIRS printout shows the following acres:

#### Forest Cover:

1. Aspen	4,674 acres
2. Bottomland Hardwoods	38 acres
3. White Birch	19 acres
4. Fir/Spruce	2 acres
5. Northern Hardwoods	2,596 acres
6.. Oak	4,766 acres
7.. Red Pine	344 acres
8.. White Pine	297 acres
9. Black Spruce	24 acres
10. Swamp Conifers	114 acres
11. Swamp Hardwoods	291 acres
12. White Spruce	19 acres
13. Tamarack	96 acres

#### Non-forest cover:

1. Upland grass	190 acres
2. True grasses	14 acres
3. Parking Area	2 acres
4. Marsh	1,202 acres
5. Water	47 acres
6. Lowland brush	769 acres
7. Minor lakes	612 acres
8. Minor streams	23 acres
9. Right-of-way	109 acres

10.	Upland brush	70 acres
11.	Rock outcrops	57 acres
12.	Farmland	62 acres
13.	Developed Use	2 acres
14.	Lowland Grass	31 acres

- B. The Forest access road system consists of 70 miles of trails and access roads classified under primary and secondary access roads. Details of classification system can be found in Chapter 700 and a map in Chapter 900 of the 2006-2020 Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

## II. TIMBER SALE ADMINISTRATION

Timber Sale Status - there are 8 timber sales on the county books at this time:

- A. Five (5) sales were closed-out in 2011.
- B. Two (2) timber sales are expected to be closed out in 2012.

## III. TIMBER SALE PLANNING AND ESTABLISHMENT

- A. Acres and type/species - For 2012 approximately 500 acres of timber sale establishment will be completed. The acreage being marked consists of 350 acres of oak and northern hardwood thinning, 100 acres of swamp hardwood and swamp conifer and 50 acres of aspen regeneration.
- B. A timber sale will be marked in Veterans park. The sale involves a seconding thinning of plantation pine and the removal of high-risk and mature timber in the park and campground area.
- C. 2011 - Five (5) timber sales were offered in October of 2011. All five of those sales were sold. Volumes of the sales that were sold totaled 596 MBF (thousand board feet) of hardwood sawtimber, 55 MBF of softwood sawtimber, 3250 cds. of aspen and mixed hardwood of pulpwood and boltwood and 215 cds. of softwood cordwood.

## IV. FOREST RECONNAISSANCE

Forest reconnaissance is completed following completion of timber sale or when stand is physically entered and then rescheduled. The entire forest has been re-reconned in the past 20 years and recon has been kept up to date in order to assure the most useful information possible from the reconnaissance printout.

Barron County will fully implement the new Wisconsin Forest Inventory and Reporting System. One advantage of implementing this new system is that it will allow us to update the cultural needs segment of the reconnaissance information. Many of the needs that were in the old system are no longer being done or needed.

## V. TIMBERSTAND IMPROVEMENT

- A. Forty (40) acres of TSI (Timber Stand Improvement) in the form of oak release were completed in 2011. The acreage is



located in Compartment 10. An additional 20 acres are scheduled for completion in 2012. Monies to complete this project are being supplied by a County Forest Sustainable Grant.

- B. Approximately 20 acres of oak forest that was direct seeded in 2002, located in the Silver Cr. compartment will be evaluated for a T.S.I treatment. Monies are available through the WDNR Turkey stamp program.

#### VI. REFORESTATION

A herbicide release project is scheduled on approximately 16 acres of Non-CFL at the Cumberland Gravel Pit.

#### VII. FOREST PROTECTION

- A. A majority of the Barron County Forest is in the DNR intensive fire protection zones. The Silver Creek and Hay River Compartments are in non-protective zones. Agreements are in place with the appropriate fire departments.

Fire is not normally a problem except during extreme conditions. Barron County has very little conifer type to worry about.

- B. There have been no major outbreaks of insects or diseases on the County Forest in the recent past and none are anticipated. Specialists are called in whenever something of interest or an unusual nature is detected. Larch beetle is causing some mortality. EAB (emerald ash borer) and Gypsy Moth are anticipated future problems.

#### VIII. MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Barron County has no buildings and/or campgrounds on the County Forest.

- A. Gates. As budgeting allows we are replacing old cable gates with either pipe or farm type gates. Gates and signs are constructed and maintained with time and monies budgeted in the County Maintenance budget.
- B. Roads and Trails Annually, money is budgeted for maintenance and development of forest access roads. Gates and signs are constructed and maintained with time and monies budgeted in the County Maintenance budget.
- C. Property Lines. In 2011 property lines were identified for re-marking, the program will continue in 2012.

#### IX. FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Wildlife Habitat funds (.05 cents/acre) are used for a variety of habitat projects on the Barron County Forest. Oak regeneration is Barron County's number one priority and takes precedence over all other habitat projects.

Habitat funds will be used for trail mowing maintenance of water control structures.

#### X. GIS - BARRON COUNTY FOREST

The digitization of county forest roads was completed in 2011. Additional roads and trails will be added to the database if and when they are developed. A GIS layer will be created to monitor and track the installation and maintenance of property lines.

## XI. LAND PURCHASES, SALES, EXCHANGES WITHIN COUNTY FOREST

240 acres of forested acreage was purchased in the Town of Sumner and is being applied for entry into the County Forest. A Knowles - Nelson Stewardship Grant is being applied for and will provide up to 50% of the monies, the remaining 50 % were obtained through a WDNR Project loan.

## XII. INTERACTION WITH OTHER GROUPS

- A. Snowmobile Clubs - Whenever possible, segments of the Barron County snowmobile trail system are placed within the Barron County Forest. To the greatest extent possible, trails are placed on existing forest access roads. Such placement often eliminates need for brushing on such segments. Disruption of snowmobile trails for logging is usually minimal. The newly created Conservation Deputy works closely with all snowmobile and ATV clubs in the County.
- B. Skiing - The Barron County Forest has a ½ mile lighted cross-country ski trail in the Waterman Lake block. Site includes a parking lot and warming house. Members of the Ice Age Trail developed and placed an information Kiosk along with paving the parking lot with the cooperation of the Barron County Highway Department. All are maintained by the Cumberland Area Ski Touring Association (CASTA). The County provides annual funding to assist in the maintenance of this resource.

The Conservation Deputy position in the Barron County Sheriff Department will take responsibility of coordinating activities on the County trail system.

## XIII. RECREATION

- A. Parks and Campgrounds - No parks or campgrounds are located on the Barron County Forest.
- B. Boat Landings - Boat landings on the Forest are mostly undeveloped with carry-in access only. The Little Sand Lake acquisition added two developed lake accesses to the forest.
- C. All Terrain Vehicles - Most of the Barron County Forest is closed to ATV use. The 15-year Forest Plan allows use of ATV's in County Forest after case-by-case review by the Property Committee. Such use is limited to ungated roads that are not signed to restrict ATV use. No off-road ATV use is permitted on the forest.
- D. Snowmobile Trails - Approximately 9 miles of funded snowmobile trails are located in the forest.
- E. Snowshoeing - A 2 ½ mile snowshoe trail was completed in 2001 with an additional 2 mile loop in 2002. Total of 4 ½ miles of three connecting loops have been signed, brushed, and ready for snow since early in 2002.
- F. Rifle Range - A rifle range is located in the Hay River block of the County Forest. It consists of a shelter, a .22 range; two big bore ranges and a pistol range.
- G. The National Ice Age Trail - traverses several compartments of the forest. Portions of the trail are found in the following compartments: Cedar Lake, Bear Lake and Waterman Lake.

Parts of the above mentioned snowshoe trail uses a portion of the Ice Age Trail in the Waterman Lake block. The Ice Age Trail is always protected by timber sale contract provisions, when a timber sale comes in contact with the trail.

- H. Equestrian Trails - Two trails along with a horse trailer camping area are established in the Narrow Gauge Compartment. Establishment and maintenance was supplied by and is the responsibility of the Barron County Horse Trail Association

#### XIV. GRANTS AND FUNDING

- i. County Conservation Funds.
  1. 2011 - Funds will be applied for the continuation of the next phase in the development of a handicapped trout fishing trail and deck in the Silver Creek unit.
- ii. County Forest Sustainable Grant.
  1. A \$ 3,000.00 Grant will be applied for to complete the Mikana T.S.I. project in Management Unit 10.
- iii. Snowmobile and ATV trail funds are used to maintain and develop such trails, where appropriate. The vast majority of these trails are located on private lands.
- iv. At this time 1.75 miles of ATV trails are located within the County Forest.

#### XV. OTHER TOPICS

- A. Wisconsin County Forest Association Meetings - A representative from the Property Committee and Forest Administrator have been active participants in WCFA activities and committees. Barron County will continue such participation as a means of keeping up with new ideas from other Counties, to find solutions to Barron County problems and to have a voice in legislation at the state and national level.
- B. Computers, Programs, GIS, etc - See Section X for update.
- C. Fifteen Year Plan Activities

No amendments to the 15-Year Plan were made in 2011.
- D. Forest Certification - An audit conducted by FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) & SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative) was conducted in the summer of 2011. The results were positive and Barron County Forest remains certified as a sustainable forest in both FSC and SFI programs.
- E. DNR Audit - A WDNR audit was conducted in the fall of 2011. Minor discrepancies were identified and corrected.

3100.5

## 2013 ANNUAL WORK PLAN

### I. MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES – 2013

- A. The Barron County Forest is comprised of 14 compartments with a total of 16,390 acres. The 2012 WisFIRS printout shows the following acres:

Forest Cover:

1. Aspen	4,674 acres
2. Bottomland Hardwoods	38 acres
3. White Birch	19 acres
4. Fir/Spruce	2 acres
5. Northern Hardwoods	2,596 acres
6. Oak	4,766 acres
7. Red Pine	344 acres
8. White Pine	297 acres
9. Black Spruce	24 acres
10. Swamp Conifers	114 acres
11. Swamp Hardwoods	291 acres
12. White Spruce	19 acres
13. Tamarack	96 acres

Non-forest cover:

1. Upland grass	190 acres
2. True grasses	14 acres
3. Parking Area	2 acres
4. Marsh	1,202 acres
5. Water	47 acres
6. Lowland brush	769 acres
7. Minor lakes	612 acres
8. Minor streams	23 acres
9. Right-of-way	109 acres
10. Upland brush	70 acres
11. Rock outcrops	57 acres
12. Farmland	62 acres
13. Developed Use	2 acres

14.Lowland Grass 31 acres

- B. The Forest access road system consists of 70 miles of trails and access roads classified under primary and secondary access roads. Details of classification system can be found in Chapter 700 and a map in Chapter 900 of the 2006-2020 Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

## II. TIMBER SALE ADMINISTRATION

Timber Sale Status – there are 14 timber sales on the county books at this time:

- A. Two (2) sales were closed-out in 2012.  
B. Two (2) sales are expected to be closed out in 2013.

## III. TIMBER SALE PLANNING AND ESTABLISHMENT

- A. Acres and type/species – For 2013 approximately 243 of timber sale establishment will be completed. The acreage being marked consists of 168 acres of oak and northern hardwood thinning, 38 acres of aspen improvement cut, and 37 acres of conifer thinning.
- B. A timber sale in Veterans Park was established and completed. The sale involved a seconding thinning of plantation pine and the removal of high-risk and mature timber in the park and campground area. The sale generated \$16,162.57 in revenue.
- C. A Timber sale will be marked in the Rockman's Woods area in the City of Barron in 2013. The sale is intended to remove high-risk timber to allow for the development of future crop trees.

## III TIMBER SALE PLANNING AND ESTABLISHMENT (cont.)

- D. 2012 – Six (6) timber sales were offered in October of 2012. All six of those sales were sold. Volumes of the sales that were sold totaled;
- 611.39 MBF (thousand board feet) Hardwood Sawtimber.
  - 161.19 MBF Softwood Sawtimber.
  - 6536 cords of Aspen and Mixed Hardwood cordwood.
  - 284 cords of softwood cordwood.

## I. FOREST RECONNAISSANCE

Forest reconnaissance is completed following completion of timber sale or when stand is physically entered and then rescheduled. The entire forest has been re-reconned in the past 20 years and recon has been kept up to date in order to assure the most useful information possible from the reconnaissance printout.

Barron County has fully implemented the new Wisconsin Forest Inventory and Reporting System. One advantage of implementing this new system is that it will allow us to update the cultural needs segment of the reconnaissance information. Many of the needs that were in the old system are no longer being done or needed.

## II. TIMBERSTAND IMPROVEMENT

- E. Twenty (20) acres of TSI (Timber Stand Improvement) in the form of oak release were completed in 2012. The acreage is located in Compartment 10. Monies to complete this project were supplied by a County Forest Sustainable Grant.
- F. Approximately 20 acres of oak forest that was direct seeded in 2002, located in the Silver Cr. compartment was evaluated for a T.S.I treatment. No treatment was necessary.
- G. Twenty-nine (29) acres are scheduled to be treated in the Spring of 2013 to a prescribed fire to release established oak seedling from competition.

### III. REFORESTATION

Three oak regeneration cuts (approx. 45 ac. in total), are scheduled for 2013. Site-prep will be completed in the fall with a harvest to follow.

### IV. FOREST PROTECTION

- H. A majority of the Barron County Forest is in the DNR intensive fire protection zones. The Silver Creek and Hay River Compartments are in non-protective zones. Agreements are in place with the appropriate fire departments.

Fire is not normally a problem except during extreme conditions. Barron County has very little conifer type to worry about.

- I. There have been no major outbreaks of insects or diseases on the County Forest in the recent past and none are anticipated. Specialists are called in whenever something of interest or an unusual nature is detected. Larch beetle is causing some mortality. EAB (emerald ash borer) and Gypsy Moth are anticipated future problems.
- J.

### V. MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Barron County has no buildings and/or campgrounds on the County Forest.

- D. Gates. As budgeting allows we are replacing old cable gates with either pipe or farm type gates. Gates and signs are constructed and maintained with time and monies budgeted in the County Maintenance budget.
- E. Roads and Trails Annually, money is budgeted for maintenance and development of forest access roads. Gates and signs are constructed and maintained with time and monies budgeted in the County Maintenance budget. An existing road to Goose Lake in the Mikana block will be opened to public vehicle access in 2013. The road was improved with matting and rock by the County's Maintenance staff.
- F. Property Lines. In 2012 property lines were identified for re-marking, the program will continue in 2013.

### VI. FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Wildlife Habitat funds (.05 cents/acre) are used for a variety of habitat projects on the Barron County Forest. Oak regeneration is Barron County's number one priority and takes precedence over all other habitat projects.

Habitat funds will be used for trail mowing maintenance of water control structures.

### VII. GIS – BARRON COUNTY FOREST

The digitization of county forest roads was completed in 2012. Additional roads and trails will be added to the database if and when they are developed. A GIS layer will be created to monitor and track the installation and maintenance of property lines.

#### VIII. LAND PURCHASES, SALES, EXCHANGES WITHIN COUNTY FOREST

240 acres (Wisti Property) of forested acreage that was purchased in the Town of Sumner was entered into the Barron County Forest.

#### IX. INTERACTION WITH OTHER GROUPS

- K. **Snowmobile Clubs** – Whenever possible, segments of the Barron County snowmobile trail system are placed within the Barron County Forest. To the greatest extent possible, trails are placed on existing forest access roads. Such placement often eliminates need for brushing on such segments. Disruption of snowmobile trails for logging is usually minimal. The newly created Conservation Deputy works closely with all snowmobile and ATV clubs in the County.
- L. **Skiing** – The Barron County Forest has a ½ mile lighted cross-country ski trail in the Waterman Lake block. Site includes a parking lot and warming house. Members of the Ice Age Trail developed and placed an information Kiosk along with paving the parking lot with the cooperation of the Barron County Highway Department. All are maintained by the Cumberland Area Ski Touring Association (CASTA). The County provides annual funding to assist in the maintenance of this resource.

The Conservation Deputy position in the Barron County Sheriff Department will take responsibility of co-coordinating activities on the County trail system.

#### X. RECREATION

- M. **Parks and Campgrounds** – No parks or campgrounds are located on the Barron County Forest.
- N. **Boat Landings** – Boat landings on the Forest are mostly undeveloped with carry-in access only. The Little Sand Lake acquisition added two developed lake accesses to the forest.
- O. **All Terrain Vehicles** – Most of the Barron County Forest is closed to ATV use. The 15-year Forest Plan allows use of ATV's in County Forest after case-by-case review by the Property Committee. Such use is limited to ungated roads that are not signed to restrict ATV use. No off-road ATV use is permitted on the forest.
- P. **Snowmobile Trails** – Approximately 9 miles of funded snowmobile trails are located in the forest.
- Q. **Snowshoeing** – A 2 ½ mile snowshoe trail was completed in 2001 with an additional 2 mile loop in 2002. Total of 4 ½ miles of three connecting loops have been signed, brushed, and ready for snow since early in 2002.
- R. **Rifle Range** – A rifle range is located in the Hay River block of the County Forest. It consists of a shelter, a .22 range; two big bore ranges and a pistol range.
- S. **The National Ice Age Trail** – traverses several compartments of the forest. Portions of the trail are found in the following compartments: Cedar Lake, Bear Lake and Waterman Lake.

Parts of the above mentioned snowshoe trail uses a portion of the Ice Age Trail in the Waterman Lake block. The Ice Age Trail is always protected by timber sale contract provisions, when a timber sale comes in contact with the trail.

- T. Equestrian Trails – Two trails along with a horse trailer camping area are established in the Narrow Gauge Compartment. Establishment and maintenance was supplied by and is the responsibility of the Barron County Horse Trail Association.
- U. Turtle Creek Handicap Fishing Piers. The asphalt paving of two trail spurs and parking lot was completed in the fall of 2012. Additional work to build the actual piers will occur in 2013. (see XI.1)

#### XI. GRANTS AND FUNDING

- i. County Conservation Funds.
  - 1. The paving of two trail spurs and parking lot were completed at the Turtle Cr. Handicapped Fishing Trail in the Silver Creek unit. The work was funded by a 50% matching County Conservation Grant
- ii. County Forest Sustainable Grant.
  - 1. A \$ 3,000.00 Grant was used to complete the Mikana T.S.I. project in Management Unit 10 (Mikana).
- iii. Snowmobile and ATV trail funds are used to maintain and develop such trails, where appropriate. The vast majority of these trails are located on private lands.
- iv. At this time 1.75 miles of ATV trails are located within the County Forest.

#### XII. OTHER TOPICS

- V. Wisconsin County Forest Association Meetings – A representative from the Property Committee and Forest Administrator have been active participants in WCFA activities and committees. Barron County will continue such participation as a means of keeping up with new ideas from other Counties, to find solutions to Barron County problems and to have a voice in legislation at the state and national level.

#### W. Fifteen Year Plan Activities

No amendments to the 15-Year Plan were made in 2012.

- X. Forest Certification – Barron County Forest remains certified as a sustainable forest in both FSC and SFI programs.

- Y. DNR Audit – No WDNR audits were conducted in 2012.

### 3200 PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This summary of the Forest activities should provide a running history of accomplishments by activity. It will provide a quick and accessible reference for accomplishments on the County Forest.

3000-2

#### 3210 TIMBER SALES

##### 915 ANNUAL GROSS TIMBER SALE RECEIPTS

			CORD	TOTAL (\$)	SEVERANCES
YEAR	# SALES	ACRES	EQUIVALENTS	SALE VALUE	(\$ ) PAID
1949	1	1	2.72	\$15.86	\$7.93



1953	1	6	69.00	\$124.20	\$62.10
1954	3	51	163.37	\$1,149.83	\$575.06
1955	3	97	489.83	\$2,299.84	\$1,029.57
1956	2	79	283.61	\$2,162.14	\$860.58
1957	6	0	396.44	\$1,059.38	\$522.11
1958	6	0	1119.05	\$2,253.42	\$1,132.96
1959	2	30.25	221.41	\$399.60	\$199.80
1960	1	0	0.00	\$16.80	\$8.40
1961	2	29	280.98	\$505.76	\$252.90
1963	7	0	1468.38	\$2,444.56	\$1,114.80
1964	3	0	507.21	\$912.99	\$434.35
1966	3	30	216.00	\$369.70	\$73.94
1968	5	154	1527.16	\$2,779.94	\$555.98
1970	1	2	10.00	\$18.00	\$3.60
1971	8	212	1854.18	\$3,322.37	\$664.47
1972	2	54	567.93	\$1,230.08	\$246.01
1973	2	16	167.73	\$366.60	\$73.32
1974	9	137.5	1556.66	\$3,983.15	\$785.83
1975	3	45	140.77	\$1,223.41	\$244.48
1976	5	64	667.16	\$1,830.45	\$366.09
1977	7	133	1539.96	\$4,681.79	\$751.27
1978	4	255	2134.24	\$5,401.70	\$1,080.33
1979	6	234	1561.33	\$6,373.14	\$1,274.63
			CORD	TOTAL (\$)	SEVERANCES
YEAR	# SALES	ACRES	EQUIVALENTS	SALE VALUE	(\$) PAID
1980	9	338	4330.46	\$23,280.95	\$4,586.18
1981	12	403	5328.30	\$20,277.49	\$4,055.50
1982	1	111	1158.24	\$6,586.56	\$1,125.89
1983	9	1094	10386.44	\$100,635.77	\$20,127.16
1984	16	725	10649.73	\$38,652.25	\$7,730.45
1985	10	460	8274.11	\$37,100.09	\$7,420.02
1986	7	234	2540.56	\$41,509.35	\$8,301.88
1987	16	876	18557.83	\$81,235.15	\$16,247.03
1988	14	1524	21648.40	\$140,913.49	\$28,182.70
1989	10	342	8396.28	\$32,878.53	\$6,575.71
1990	4	82	1989.10	\$14,670.64	\$2,934.13
1991	10	838	12809.09	\$119,967.17	\$36,363.01
1992	8	217	4755.19	\$60,078.68	\$18,911.45
1993	7	365	9403.97	\$102,352.46	\$13,182.86
1994	5	115	1690.42	\$29,284.57	\$14,464.30
1995	3	162	2870.57	\$103,325.58	\$41,566.98
1996	5	431	6347.60	\$299,134.38	\$149,567.19
1997	9	326	5116.50	\$198,772.96	\$99,386.48
1998	5	205	2304.62	\$136,723.27	\$68,361.64
1999	14	510	7443.59	\$242,789.71	\$121,394.86
2000	5	407	6081.12	\$201,394.59	\$100,695.00
2001	5	593	7344.02	\$286,173.34	\$143,086.67
2002	2	260	947.53	\$48,641.03	\$24,325.02
2003	3	320	2856.79	\$120,694.70	\$47,698.36
2004	4	451	9240.00	\$190,210.75	\$95,105.38
2005	0	**	0.00	\$0.00	\$28,563.83
2006	0	0	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2007	6	793	6407.59	\$ 322,573.62	\$ 189,402.74
2008	9	710	8723.22	\$ 505,294.63	\$ 242,682.07
2009	10	645	6323.35	\$ 389,263.76	\$ 254,341.10
2010	10	684	8419.35	\$ 441,919.79	\$ 60,817.06

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2011	2	69	1035.2	\$ 2,9210.50	\$ 27,672.08
2012	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>322.00</b>	<b>15919.75</b>	<b>220324.29</b>	<b>\$4,410,470.47</b>	<b>\$1,897194.90</b>
<b>15 YR AVG</b>	<b>21.47</b>	<b>1061.32</b>	<b>14688.29</b>	<b>\$294,031.36</b>	<b>\$126,479.66</b>
<b>50 YR AVG</b>	<b>6.44</b>	<b>318.40</b>	<b>4046.88</b>	<b>\$88,209.41</b>	<b>\$37,943.89</b>

\* IN 2003 AT RECOMMENDATION - COUNTY'S AUDITOR BEGAN PAYING OUT ALL DOLLARS RECEIVED AND SEGREGATED FOR SEVERANCE PAYMENTS TO TOWNSHIPS EVERY DECEMBER. THEREFORE PAYMENTS WERE MADE EVEN THOUGH NO SALES WERE CLOSED OUT.

\*\* NO FURTHER SALES CLOSED OUT; WAITING FOR NEW SCALE ADMINISTRATION SOFTWARE TO FUNCTION. AS OF 2/15/06 ALL SCALE ENTERED BUT UNABLE TO TRUST BILLINGS.

### 3220 TIMBERSTAND IMPROVEMENT

From early 1970s through 1990s Barron County followed an aggressive plan of TSI operations. Most of the activity was weeding and thinning of pole hardwoods and pole oak stands. For a few years during the 1970s the county actively applied for and designated funds to the removal of hardwood overstory from harvested Aspen stands. By the mid 1980s, with improved hardwood pulp markets, the objectives for Aspen regeneration were shifted to timber sale contract provisions. Most of the time in those early years objectives were accomplished by offering dollars to the logging contractors to sever designated stems. As the County shifted TSI emphasis to the pole hardwood stands several attempts were made at creating a county work crew, but they were always found to be more expensive than private contractors when such were available. During the early 1990s the county sponsored a WCC work crew, with county forest TSI projects were a large component of the work experience offered. Some time in the mid 1980s we became aware that oak pole stands did not respond to weeding and thinning as well as the northern hardwood stands. After this review, efforts were concentrated on northern hardwood stands. By 1990 it was becoming increasingly difficult to get private contractors to bid at rates the county found acceptable and fit the budget. The DNR Foresters also found that their time was less and less available to mark and develop these projects. At about the same time markets for pulpwood were improving, so more and more of the weeding and thinning were included in the timber sale contracts. Today nearly 100% of our TSI goals are reached by their inclusion in timber sale contracts provisions. The recon has not been updated to show this change in policy and continues to show large acreages of past and present needs for TSI. (see Chapter 1000 pages 5-12)

From years 1976 through 1992 accomplishments on the forest were nearly 250 acres per year.

In 2011-12 approximately 60 acres were treated to a Timber Stand Improvement cut. The area was located in the Mikana block of the county forest. The practice was

carried out in stands that were harvested approximately 10-15 years prior. Cost of the project was bid at \$ 150.00 / ac. Funds were supplied by a DNR Sustainable Forestry Grant.

3000-3

3221 Future Needs of TSI

Needs will be soon become apparent in stands of oak that have been regenerated in the past ten years as these stands may or will require a crop tree release to keep a desired number of oaks as dominate and co-dominate trees in these stands. This will prove expensive but will be a good investment for the future of the forest and Barron County.

3000-4

3230 FOREST COMPOSITION

SPECIES	1959	1972	1985	1992	1999	2003	FUTURE
ASPEN	6567 62.7%	7265 51%	5170 36%	4511 30.6%	4385 28.6%	4438 28.7%	<4000
NORTHERN HARDWOOD	1626 15.5%	1710 12.1%	3706 25.5%	4300 29.0%	3228 21.1%	2916 18.8%	>2900
OAK	725 6.9%	1648 11.6%	1823 12.6%	1964 13.3%	3134 20.4%	3423 22.1%	>3000
WHITE PINE*			192	154	238	259	>600
RED PINE*			197	224	309	309	-
OTHER CONIFER**		260	244	280	285	286	-
NON FOREST COVER	685 6.5%	1694	1813 12.5%	1996 13.5%	3492 22.8%	3598 23.2%	-
TOTAL FOREST ACREAGE	10477	14148	14503	14761	15326	15486	-

As one can see Aspen acreage has decreased by nearly 40% over the past 25 years. A great deal of this acreage was converted to Oak and Northern Hardwood types. Predictions of future acreage losses is based on fact that a number of stands in compartments 4, 7, and 8 typed Aspen now will be retyped as White Pine over Aspen in the next recon update for these stands.

Northern Hardwood acreage increased 170% over the years because of conversion from almost exclusively the Aspen type. Any future gains in acreage will now come from the Oak type. Oak stands found to be on the high quality habitat types with established Sugar Maple will be allowed to convert to Northern Hardwoods. As we design sales to regenerate Oak types we will not attempt Oak regeneration on high quality habitat sites as there is too much natural competition – environmentally not worth the battle.

White Pine, there are a number of Aspen stands where the next recon update will show them as White Pine over Aspen.

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3240 COUNTY FOREST GRANTS AND AIDS  
3241 Project Loans (land acquisition)  
See 920.2.1

- 3242 Wildlife Habitat Grants  
See 920.3
- 3243 Administrator Grants  
See 920.4
- 3250 FLORA / FAUNA
- 3251 Flora
- One major change to the forest flora that has become most apparent is the proliferation of Buckthorn in compartments 2 and 13. As we became more aware of what to look for it became obvious that Buckthorn had already secured a large foothold in these compartments. In most of the other compartments it is only apparent, if at all, along the edges of the forest often only where there is continuous disturbance under bird perches. In compartments 2 and 13 eradication of Buckthorn is not an option and we hope to be able keep it from interfering with forest reproduction efforts. During the past ten years the regeneration of the Oak type has been initiated. Regeneration efforts have been successful at establishing Oak seedlings and the resulting sapling stands. Weather or not this will result in quality Oak pole and saw log stands remains to be seen. Past TSI efforts at reducing the amount of Ironwood saplings and poles in the under story of many hardwood stands has been successful and its negative impact on hardwood seedling reproduction nearly eliminated.
- 3252 Fauna
- The high populations of many wildlife species have become readily apparent during the past 10 years. Populations of White tailed deer have been high during the entire period but others have become nearly as noticeable:
1. Turkeys have gone from nonhuntable populations to a species of concern with their continuous churning up of the forest floor. Hunting seasons are now available in all units of the forest.
  2. Canada Geese now heavily nest nearly every wet land of the Forest. Their effects are most readily apparent on the dikes on the forest wildlife flowages; they now have the "mowed" look.
  3. Sandhill Cranes now nest and rear young in many of the forest compartments, where in the past they were seldom seen on the forest.
  4. Timber Wolves now inhabit or have pack territories that enter in to five forest compartments where as ten years ago there were only occasional tracks of a dispersing wolf.
  5. Ruffed Grouse and Wood Cock are both populations that have diminished over the past ten years. As with the national and International populations there seems to low or no population recovery.

	NORTHERN HARDWOOD		OAK*		ASPEN		TOTAL	
	SCHEDULED	PLANNED	SCHEDULED	PLANNED	SCHEDULED	PLANNED	SCHEDULED	PLANNED
2006	64 acres	229 acres	188 acres	119 acres	3 acres	111 acres	255 acres	459 acres
2007	132 acres	292 acres	-	89 acres	32 acres	16 acres	164 acres	397 acres
2008	-	258 acres	114 acres	38 acres	8 acres	-	122 acres	296 acres
2009	112 acres	272 acres	71 acres	42 acres	14 acres	60 acres	197 acres	374 acres
2010	399 acres	168 acres	86 acres	96 acres	-	-	485 acres	264 acres
2011	243 acres	223 acres	61 acres	75 acres	-	40 acres	304 acres	338 acres
2012	177 acres	242 acres	-	122 acres	-	14 acres	177 acres	378 acres
2013	178 acres	16 acres	46 acres	38 acres	37 acres	37 acres	261 acres	91 acres
2014	211 acres	155 acres	51 acres	61 acres	60 acres	40 acres	322 acres	256 acres
2015	121 acres	98 acres	130 acres	148 acres	-	54 acres	251 acres	300 acres
TOTAL	1637 acres	1953 acres	747 acres	828 acres	154 acres	372 acres	2538 acres	3153 acres
10YR AVG	154 acres	195 acres	75 acres	83 acres	15 acres	37 acres	254 acres	315 acres
ANNUAL ALLOWABLE CUT	163 acres		10 acres		86 acres		259 acres	

- The oak acreages expressed are both thinning and regeneration harvests combined

The three species represented on this chart comprise the vast majority of commercial forest acres on the Barron County Forest (90%). Scheduled harvests dates are those scheduled by Forester updating recon data and inserting a date for the next entry date, as a thinning or harvest. Planned harvests are those generated by the computer using the restraints Barron County designated to smooth out cutting schedules (5 years back & 10 years forward). As you can see that neither method smooths out acreage per year and we need to search forward or carry forward stands each year to approach the annual allowable cut of 259 acres for these species.

Northern Hardwood acreages workout reasonable well but the large size of some stands cause concern and difficulties keeping close to annual acreage allowance.

Oak shows a harvest of 65 acres per year over annual allowable cut due to the fact that most of our Oak stands were converted from Aspen stands in the 1980's and early 1990's by the removal of the aspen component and the updating of the reconnaissance data which now expressed these stands as Oak. Today large acreages of Oak are showing up in both schedules. This is a bump in the cutting schedule that we will work to spread out. Some stands will need to be carried past rotation age to facilitate this need and in many cases can easily tolerate a few more years of age.

Aspen harvests for the next 10 years show the forest vastly under cutting the Aspen resource. This again is a result of a majority of the Aspen being harvested in the 1980's and early 1990's. A 50 year rotation age puts most of the Aspen coming up for harvest in 2020s through the 2040s. Again this is a bump in harvest schedule that needs to be spread out entering some stands early and by carrying some longer. As we are able or if we are able to identify them we will try to schedule stands composed of primarily trembling Aspen early and some of the better large tooth aspen stands can be carried longer. We are now cutting some large tooth Aspen with ages approaching 70+ with

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#### ALLOWABLE HARVEST (cont.)

excellent reproduction although there are losses in quality and minor losses in volume.

The juggling of these bubbles in Oak and Aspen allows Barron County to maintain a reasonably even acreage goal each year and to maintain a reasonably smooth revenue stream for the county. In most years Barron County is able to establish sales on and sell all stands that are deemed ready for harvest or thinning. There is no back log in any species at this time. As discussed before presale review of stands, habitat classifications, and acreage goals are found to be important in making sale design decisions.